



Analysis of Texas Pharmacists with Board Certification

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BACKGROUND

The Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) was established in 1976 to formally recognize specialties in pharmacy and award credentials to those meeting qualifications. The BPS currently recognizes 14 different specialties and more than 46,000 certifications to pharmacists. BPS certification confirms a pharmacist's education, knowledge, and skills are superior than the minimal competency required for licensure.¹

The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) has many requirements of measuring the quality of various professional programs leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree such as trending Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment (PCOA), NAPLEX passing rates and competency areas, and the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE). Although these assessments serve to measure foundational knowledge per the ACPE standards, there is currently no recommendation to measure a quality of Doctor of Pharmacy programs by comparing post-licensure certification.²

During Texas Tech Health Sciences Center Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy's most recent self-study, it was decided to analyze Texas pharmacists and possible influences leading to BPS board certification.

OBJECTIVE

To analyze the demographics, education, and additional licensing of practicing pharmacists with board certification in Texas.

METHODS

Using data retrospectively collected from the Texas State Board of Pharmacy and the Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) public records from June 2019, we compared demographics, area of practice, practice position, and additional licensure of pharmacists with and without board certification.

Inclusion criteria included pharmacists with an active Texas pharmacy license and documented employment address within the state of Texas.

RESULTS

Included Pharmacists

19,554 Pharmacists with active license

11,127 Texas graduates practicing pharmacy in Texas

307 Board certified pharmacists practicing in Texas

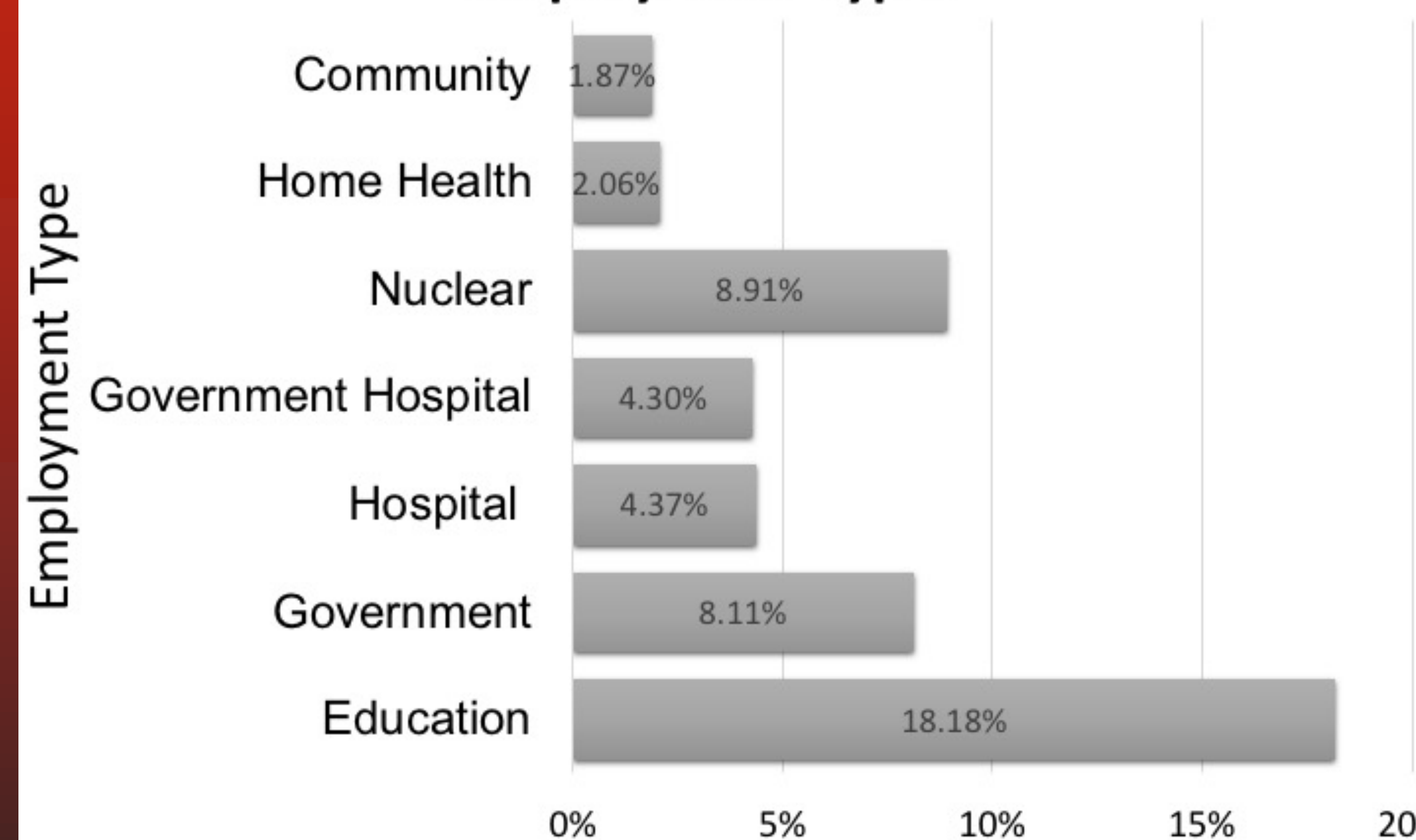
Frequency of Texas Pharmacy Graduates with Post-Licensure Certification Practicing in the State of Texas

Place of Education	Pharmacists with BPS Board Certification; n(%)
Out of State (n=8470)	157(1.85)
Texas A&M (n=574)	9(1.57)
Texas Southern(n=2141)	9 (0.42)
Texas Tech HSC (n=1318)	29 (2.2)
University of Incarnate Word (n=594)	7(1.18)
University of Houston (n=2782)	35 (1.26)
University of North Texas (n=95)	0 (0)
UT at Austin (n=3475)	61 (1.76)

Comparison of BPS Board Certified and Non-Certified Pharmacists with Active Preceptor Licensure

	Active Preceptor; n(%)	P-value
Board Certified (n=307)	261 (85)	<0.0001
Not Certified (n=19352)	9395 (48.5)	

Frequency of BPS Certification in Reported Employment Types



CONCLUSIONS

- Most pharmacists practicing within Texas with and without board certifications obtained Pharm.D. at an out of state university
- Education as area of employment has the highest frequency of BPS board certifications, which may be reflective on the statistically significant difference in preceptor licensure
- Texas Tech HSC shows the highest percentage of BPS board certified pharmacists practicing within Texas

LIMITATIONS

- Inability to include all eligible pharmacists due to name change and/or declination to BPS to publish personal information
- Inclusion of Texas pharmacy graduates only practicing in the state of Texas
- Frequency of BPS board certification is not currently a recommended or approved measure of Doctor of Pharmacy program accreditation

SELECTED REFERENCES

1. Board of Pharmacy Specialties. <https://www.bpsweb.org/about-bps/history/>. Accessed May 30,2020.
2. Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education. Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree. <https://www.acpe-accredit.org/pdf/Standards2016FINAL.pdf>. Published February 2, 2015. Accessed May 29, 2020.
3. Johnson SG. Role of board certification in advancing pharmacy practice. *PharmPract*. 2019;17(4):1767. doi: 10.18549/PharmPract2019.4.1767.

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